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The following account has been extracted from a telegraphic report dated July 2, 1959 (made available by German Embassy here) received from German Ambassador Kroll in Moscow relative to a recent conversation between him and Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Zorin:

Kroll

Zorin told ~~K~~ that the West still hadn't correctly understood the latest Soviet proposals in their exact significance. Herter in his final private conversation with Gromyko did not contest them. One should know that these suggestions contained no ultimatum and that the Soviet Government had no intention of taking unilateral aggressive measures during the duration of the German mixed advisory commission or even after an unproductive expiration of this commission. Such measures would be a possibility only in the event that, so to speak, all of the threads are lost ("stricke reißen"). The Soviet Government wishes to reach an understanding as much on the matter of Berlin as on all other outstanding questions.

Kroll asked Zorin about the conditions and terms under which the foreign ministers conference would resume if the deliberations of the mixed commission should collapse, pointing out that Gromyko had been unclear about this.

Zorin replied that the Western powers and the USSR would have to reach an understanding on the provisional status of Berlin before the meeting of the German mixed commission. The West would have the same rights as before, to be sure in an agreed revised form (eg, reduced troop contingents, diminished propaganda). If the foreign ministers conference were resumed in 18 months or two years, upon the collapse of the mixed

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commission, the West would return with the same revised rights as long as it had observed the stipulations of the agreement. When Kroll inquired as to who would judge whether or not the conditions had been met, Zorin replied that each side would agree not to alter by diplomatic means the agreement over the provisional status of Berlin.

Zorin stated that the Soviet delegation (at Geneva) had been astonished at the reaction of the West, and especially of the West Germans to a suggestion concerning the German mixed commission. This proposal had in fact been originally made by the West, but when it was accepted by the USSR, the West drew back. If the West was not pleased by Soviet acceptance of abandoned Western proposals, the matter at least might have been discussed, especially with regard to the matter of parity and the scope of the commission. The Soviet Government holds such a commission to be fully in the interest of bringing together the two (German) states and to be in reality a step towards reunification. Inasmuch as the West received the proposal without favor, the Soviet Government concludes that the West is not really well disposed towards German reunification. However, the Soviets did expect that the West German delegation, at least, would be willing to discuss the proposal.

Zorin stated that the Soviet Union did not favor the idea of independent experts being represented on the commission instead of the officials of the two governments.

Regarding the duration of the consultations of the commission, Zorin stated that this was a matter which could be discussed, mentioning in the conversation a period of two years as a possible compromise.

Zorin moreover complained that Gromyko's attempt to bring up for discussion the question of a security zone in Europe and related problems in the field of disarmament had failed due to the negative attitude taken by the Western Powers. Kroll considered it entirely possible that Gromyko will raise the subject in the forthcoming stage of the conference.

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Kroll set forth for Mr. Zorin the point of view of the Federal Government, which is shared by the Western Powers, that the West cannot make any further proposals than it has already done. Zorin did not express himself clearly on this point but suggested that the USSR might be willing to raise for discussion at the second conference the same proposals which it had made previously, as these do not appear to have been clearly understood by the West.

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